

C. S. C. the Council of Safety. Humbly sheweth: That your poor petitioners hath been ever since the seventeenth day of last mon^t February, confined in the main Guard House, in the City of Annapolis, and that upon suspicion of being enemies to their Country, and upon an examination before the Council of Safety, there was nothing found against us only that we were found among the number of those that was deemed Enemies to their country. Therefore most Honourable Gentlemen, as we ever have hitherto obtained the cause, and is still willing to maintain it, and to affirm the reverse of some ill prejudiced persons (as the Honorable house has been pleased to pass an act for the releasement of all those that is willing to take the oath of Allegiance) We are willing to comply with the Honourable House's rules, and take the oath of allegiance, in due obedience thereto, and shew that we are more for liberty than slavery. Therefore, most Honourable and considerate Gentlemen, as we have one and all of us families, and has not any one of us, any one to manage or conduct or do for us, things of course must most Honourable Gentlemen, be in a most distressing condition: Therefore most honourable and considerate Gentlemen, hopes, therefrom that you will take the above matter into your Honours most serious considerations, and weigh matters most deliberately, and grant us a releasement from our present exigencies as we never have been prejudicial to the present state of affairs. Your granting us, most Honourable Gentlemen, an answer, in favour of the foregoing, your poor Petitioners shall ever be in duty bound to pray: Signed by the whole of the Petitioners: So God bless the Congress and direct our General.

To the Hon^{ble} the Council of Safety of M^d

[Thomas Smyth to Jenifer.]

Chester Town March the 13th 1777

Sir, I received your fav^r of the 28th Feb^r by Captⁿ Coursey two days ago desiring me to purchase a Qty of Rigging & sail duck for the state which you had been informed were arrived here. I should have readily complied with your desire had there been any at this place for sale. The brig you were informed arrived here from Philadelphia came from Hamburgh & Madeira but she brought no rigging for sale and a few bales of Ravens Duck which was only fit for tents & small sails this was sent to Philadelphia after lying here 6 weeks and would not sell. We have an account here that Cap^t Dashiel is arrived with a Qty of sail & duck in some